

Appln No. 10/664,643
Amdt date October 26, 2004
Reply to Office action of October 1, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-19 are pending in the above-referenced application.

Claim 1 has been amended to place claims 1-5 in unity with claims 6-19, and claim 8 has been amended for clarity.

As required by 35 U.S.C. §121, Applicant hereby provisionally elect the claims corresponding to Group II, claims 6-19 with traverse.

This is a response to the Election requirement dated October 1, 2004 in which the Examiner grouped the claims into:

Group I - Claims 1-5, drawn to a method of filling a compartmented bag, classified in class 53, subclass 474; and

Group II - Claims 6-19, drawn to a method of forming a pouch, classified in class 493, subclass 189.

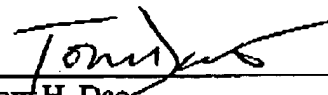
In view of the amendment to claim 1, Applicants submit that claims 1-5 and 6-19 are no longer distinct. Accordingly, rescission of the election requirement and a confirmation that claims 1-19 will be examined together are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner find it necessary to speak with Applicants' attorney, he is invited to speak with the undersigned at the telephone number identified below.

Respectfully submitted,

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